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SENATE BILL 551

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2006

INTRODUCED BY

Cynthia Nava

FOR THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION; PROVIDING FOR A STATEWIDE MATHEMATICS
AND SCIENCE INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT
MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE PROFICIENCIES; CREATING THE MATHEMATICS
AND SCIENCE BUREAU OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT AND VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION DIVISION OF THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT; CREATING
THE MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL; PROVIDING POWERS
AND DUTIES; CREATING A FUND; PROVIDING AN APPLICATION PROCESS
FOR GRANTS FROM THE FUND; PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR RECRUITMENT OF
NEW MEXICO STUDENTS INTO INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT NATIONAL
LABORATORIES AND SCIENCE-RELATED BUSINESSES IN NEW MEXICO;
PROVIDING SUPPORT TO INCREASE THE RIGOR OF MATHEMATICS AND
SCIENCE COURSES IN TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS; PROVIDING FOR
MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE PROJECTS; MAKING APPROPRIATIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

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1 Section 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
2 enacted to read:

3 "[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the
4 "Mathematics and Science Education Act"."

5 Section 2. A new section of the Public School Code is
6 enacted to read:

7 "[NEW MATERIAL] DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Mathematics
8 and Science Education Act:

9 A. "bureau" means the mathematics and science
10 bureau of the instructional support and vocational education
11 division of the department;

12 B. "chief" means the chief of the bureau; and

13 C. "council" means the mathematics and science
14 advisory council."

15 Section 3. A new section of the Public School Code is
16 enacted to read:

17 "[NEW MATERIAL] MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE INITIATIVE--
18 DESIGN.--The department shall design and implement a statewide
19 mathematics and science initiative to improve mathematics and
20 science proficiency in the state. The design of the
21 mathematics and science initiative shall be based on quality,
22 research-based mathematics and science programs shown to
23 improve mathematics and science proficiency, and the initiative
24 shall include:

25 A. alignment of school mathematics and science

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1 curricula and instruction with the New Mexico mathematics and
2 science standards and benchmarks;

3 B. consistent assessment and evaluation of student
4 mathematics and science proficiency;

5 C. requirements for appropriate, rigorous
6 professional development to assist classroom teachers in the
7 instruction of mathematics and science programs;

8 D. promotion of the use of subject-specific
9 mathematics and science teachers at the elementary level to
10 teach science and mathematics, particularly to low-performing
11 students; and

12 E. addressing the achievement gap for students with
13 disabilities and English language learners."

14 Section 4. A new section of the Public School Code is
15 enacted to read:

16 "[NEW MATERIAL] BUREAU CREATED--DUTIES.--

17 A. The "mathematics and science bureau" is created
18 in the instructional support and vocational education division
19 of the department. The secretary shall appoint a chief of the
20 bureau.

21 B. The bureau shall:

22 (1) administer the provisions of the
23 Mathematics and Science Education Act;

24 (2) provide staff support for and coordinate
25 the activities of the council;

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1 (3) work with the council to develop a
2 statewide strategic plan for mathematics and science education
3 in the public schools and coordinate education activities with
4 other state agencies, the federal government, business
5 consortia and public or private organizations or other persons;

6 (4) assist school districts to develop and
7 implement a strategic, long-term plan for improving mathematics
8 and science education in their school systems;

9 (5) recommend funding mechanisms that will
10 support the improvement of mathematics and science education in
11 the state;

12 (6) promote collaboration among public
13 schools, higher education institutions, government and business
14 and educational and community organizations to improve the
15 mathematics and science education in the state; and

16 (7) assess the outcomes of efforts to improve
17 mathematics and science education."

18 Section 5. A new section of the Public School Code is
19 enacted to read:

20 "[NEW MATERIAL] MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ADVISORY
21 COUNCIL--CREATED--MEMBERS--TERMS--VACANCIES.--

22 A. The "mathematics and science advisory council"
23 is created, composed of seventeen members. Members of the
24 council shall be appointed by the secretary for staggered terms
25 of four years; provided that for the initial appointments, five

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1 members shall be appointed for two years, five members shall be
2 appointed for three years and seven members shall be appointed
3 for four years. Members shall serve until their successors
4 have been appointed and qualified. A vacancy shall be filled
5 by appointment of the secretary for the unexpired term.

6 B. The secretary shall appoint members from
7 throughout the state to ensure balance in geographic location
8 and gender and ethnic diversity and as follows:

9 (1) one member who has expertise in state
10 government;

11 (2) one member who is an elementary school
12 teacher with expertise in mathematics and science education;

13 (3) one member who is a middle school teacher
14 with expertise in mathematics or science education;

15 (4) one member who is a high school teacher
16 with expertise in mathematics or science education;

17 (5) one member who is a mathematics or science
18 faculty member from a New Mexico four-year higher educational
19 institution;

20 (6) one member who is a mathematics or science
21 education faculty member from a New Mexico four-year higher
22 educational institution;

23 (7) one member who is a mathematics or science
24 faculty member from a New Mexico two-year higher educational
25 institution;

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1 (8) one member who is a mathematician,
2 scientist or engineer from one of the national laboratories;

3 (9) one member who represents the Indian
4 nations, tribes and pueblos in New Mexico;

5 (10) one member who has expertise in school
6 district administration;

7 (11) one member who has experience as a school
8 principal;

9 (12) one member who has experience as an
10 administrator at a four-year institution of higher education;

11 (13) one member who has experience as an
12 administrator at a two-year institution of higher education;

13 (14) one member who represents the New Mexico
14 partnership for mathematics and science education;

15 (15) one member who represents the New Mexico
16 business community; and

17 (16) two members who represent the general
18 public.

19 C. Members of the council shall elect a chair from
20 among the membership. The council shall meet at the call of
21 the chair not less than quarterly.

22 D. Members of the council are entitled to receive
23 per diem and mileage pursuant to the provisions of the Per Diem
24 and Mileage Act but shall receive no other compensation,
25 perquisite or allowance."

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1 Section 6. A new section of the Public School Code is
2 enacted to read:

3 "[NEW MATERIAL] COUNCIL DUTIES.--The council shall:

4 A. advise the department on the statewide strategic
5 plan for improving mathematics and science education that shall
6 be incorporated into the department's five-year strategic plan
7 for public elementary and secondary education in the state;

8 B. advise the bureau, the department and the
9 legislature regarding the implementation of the mathematics and
10 science education strategic plan;

11 C. advise the bureau on implementation of the
12 provisions of the Mathematics and Science Education Act;

13 D. work collaboratively with the bureau to develop
14 and revise as necessary the statewide strategic plan for
15 improving mathematics and science education;

16 E. make recommendations on applications for funding
17 from the mathematics and science proficiency fund;

18 F. make annual budget and policy recommendations to
19 the department; and

20 G. produce an annual report on public elementary
21 and secondary mathematics and science achievement for the
22 department, the governor and the legislature."

23 Section 7. A new section of the Public School Code is
24 enacted to read:

25 "[NEW MATERIAL] MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE PROFICIENCY

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1 FUND--CREATED--PURPOSE--ANNUAL REPORTS.--

2 A. The "mathematics and science proficiency fund"
3 is created in the state treasury. The fund shall consist of
4 appropriations, gifts, grants, donations and income from
5 investment of the fund. Money in the fund at the end of a
6 fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund.
7 Disbursements from the fund shall be made by warrant of the
8 secretary of finance and administration pursuant to vouchers
9 signed by the secretary or the secretary's authorized
10 representative.

11 B. The fund shall be administered by the department
12 and money in the fund is appropriated to the department to
13 provide awards to public schools, school districts and public
14 post-secondary educational institutions that implement
15 innovative, research-based mathematics and science programs or
16 professional development programs. The department shall
17 promulgate rules for the application and award of money from
18 the fund, including criteria used to evaluate innovative,
19 research-based mathematics and science programs and
20 professional development programs.

21 C. Each award recipient shall provide an annual
22 report to the bureau that accounts for the money awarded,
23 details and evaluates the outcomes of the proposal funded by
24 the mathematics and science proficiency fund and provides other
25 information requested by the bureau."

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1 Section 8. APPROPRIATIONS.--

2 A. The following amounts are appropriated from the
3 general fund to the following agencies for expenditure in
4 fiscal years 2006 and 2007 for the following purposes:

5 (1) to the public education department:

6 (a) four hundred twenty-five thousand
7 dollars (\$425,000) for staff and other expenses to establish
8 the mathematics and science bureau of the instructional support
9 and vocational education division of the department;

10 (b) forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) for
11 expenses related to the mathematics and science advisory
12 council;

13 (c) one hundred twenty thousand dollars
14 (\$120,000) to work with national laboratories and other federal
15 science-related facilities and science and technology
16 businesses to facilitate creation of internships for high
17 school students and to help place student interns;

18 (d) five hundred thousand dollars
19 (\$500,000) to work with the institutions of higher education
20 and the mathematics and science advisory council to increase
21 the rigor of mathematics and science courses in teacher
22 preparation programs; and

23 (e) three million dollars (\$3,000,000)
24 for mathematics and science summer institutes for public school
25 teachers; and

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1 (2) to the state parks division of the energy,
2 minerals and natural resources department, two hundred fifty
3 thousand dollars (\$250,000) to support a statewide outdoor
4 classroom program.

5 B. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining
6 at the end of fiscal year 2007 shall revert to the general
7 fund.

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